

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 01186 180931Z

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AF-08

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NASA-01 NEA-10

NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01 OES-06 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 /127 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5301

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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ERDA HQWASHDC

ERDA GERMANTOWN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARN CCD

SUBJECT: CCD - 729TH PLENARY MEETING, FEBRUARY 16, 1977

REF: GENEVA 1148

1. SUMMARY. THE 729TH PLENARY MEETING OF THE CCD CONVENED ON FEB 16. MEXICAN REP (GARCIA-ROBLES) CHAIRED MEETING. SWEDEN MADE STATEMENT DEVOTED TO CTB, AND THE UK A BRIEF STATEMENT ON PROCEDURES. TWO PROPOSALS FROM CO-CHAIRMEN, SETTING DATES FOR SEISMIC AND MDW INFORMALS, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 01186 180931Z

WERE PRESENTED BY THE CHAIR AND ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS.
END SUMMARY.

2. SWEDISH REP (THORSSON) ADDRESSED CCD ON COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN (CTB), CALLING IT "HIGHEST PRIORITY ISSUE." SAID SWEDEN WOULD PRESENT PRELIMINARY TEXT OF DRAFT CTB TREATY TO CCD "IN VERY NEAR FUTURE"

AND HOPED WORK ON TREATY WOULD PROCEED " AT SUCH A PACE" THAT AN AGREEMENT COULD BE CONCLUDED BEFORE THE 1978 UN SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT. SWEDISH REP EXPRESSED CONCERN AT "SLOW PACE" OF SALT NEGOTIATIONS AND CHARGED US AND UUSR, WHILE REMINDING BOTH OF TREATY OBLIGATIONS UNDER NPT AND LTBT, WITH RESPONSIBILITY OF BEING "THE FIRST TO START THE PROCESS TOWARD A CTB." IN COMMENTS ON TTBT, SWEDISH REP STATED, "FROM THE SEISMIC DATA OBTAINED AT THE HAGFORS SEISMIC ARRAY STATION IN SWEDEN AND DATA SO FAR AVAILABLE TO US THROUGH INTERNATIONAL SEISMIC DATA EXCHANGE, WE HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT ANY EXPLOSION VIOLATING THE 150-KT THRESHOLD HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT BY THE TWO COUNTRIES" SINCE 31 MARCH 1976. SHE WENT ON TO SAY, HOWEVER, THAT THE TREATY WAS NOT DESIGNED TO LIMIT DEVELOPMENT OF NEW NUCLEAR WEAPONS OR FULL-SCALE TESTING OF WARHEADS WITH YIELDS BELOW THE THRESHOLD AND, THEREFORE, WAS OF "LIMITED VALUE." SHE CONTENDED THAT RECORD OF TEXT EXPLOSION YIELDS OVER YEARS CONTENDED THAT FULL-SCALE PROOF TESTING NOT NECESSARY FOR MAINTAINING CREDIBILITY OF EXISTING WEAPONS SYSTEMS AND THUS REAFFIRMS LIMITED VALUE OF TTBT. SWEDISH REP ALSO SAID THAT IT APPEARED THAT INTEREST IN CONDUCTING PNES, ON PART OF US AND UUSR, HAD DECREASED, BUT THAT A "TREATY COULD ALLOS ... THE POSSIBILITY ... FOR CARRY-ING OUT A PARTICULAR PROJECT ... SUBJECT TO STRICT INTERNATIONAL SUPERVISION AND CONTROL." RE VERIFICATION, SHE RESTATED SWEDISH POSITION THAT "THE STATES OF THE ART IN SEISMOLOGY IS SUCH THAT ADEQUATE VERIFICATION CAN BE OBTAINED, BUT SAID THAT A PROVISION COULD BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 01186 180931Z

PLAED IN THE TREATY ALLOWING FOR VOLUNTARY ON-SITE INSPECTION PROCEDURES AND INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE OF SEISMIC DATA. THE TREATY WOULD BE AN INDEPENDENT AND COMPREHENSIVE TREATY, NOT COMPLEMENTARY TO THE LTBT. UNIVERSAL ADHERENCE WOULD BE THE ULTIMATE GOAL WHILE PROVISION WOULD BE MADE FOR WITHDRAWAL FROM THE TREATY IF ALL NUCLEAR STATES DID NOT ADHERE WITHIN A SPECIFIED PERIOD OF TIME. IN CONCLUDING, SWEDISH REP CALLED ON REPS OF MIDDLE AND SMALL-SIZED COUNTRIES TO STOP WAITING FOR INITIATIVES AND PROPOSALS FROM THE SUPERPOWERS BUT TO MAKE ACTIVE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE WORK OF THE CCD; THEN ASKED MEMBERS TO "SET FORTH TO WORK FOR EARLY RESULTS IN EFFORTS FOR A COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR TEST BAN."

3. UK REP (ALLEN) MADE A BRIEF STATEMENT FOCUSING ON PROCEDURAL ISSUES. SAID ENMOD INFORMAL WORKING GROUP COULD SERVE AS MODEL FOR THE FUTURE AND THAT UK SAW FUTURE CCD CREATING "A SERIES OF SEPARATE AD HOC WORKING GROUPS --- SET UP TO DISCUSS A SPECIFIC TOPIC ..."

LIKE THE CCD, THESE GROUPS WOULD WORK ONLY BY CONSENSUS AND WOULD BE STRICTLY SUBORDINATE TO THE CCD PLENARY. THEY DID NOT FAVOR CREATION OF PERMANENT NEGOTIATING SUBCOMMITTEE. UK REP ALSO SUGGESTED GIVING CONSIDERATION TO INCLUDING UN MEMBERS NOT MEMBERS OF CCD IN AD HOC WORKING GROUPS ESTABLISHED TO NEGOTIATE A TREATY TEXT SO THAT SUCH STATES MIGHT CONTRIBUTE TO THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS. HE SAID PRECEDENCE FOR INCLUSION OF NON-MEMBERS OF CCD IN WORKING GROUPS HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED BY THE NUCLEAR WEAPON FREE ZONE STUDY CONDUCTED TWO YEARS AGO. UK REP ALSO STATED THAT HE LIKED ITALIAN SUGGESTION FOR ESTABLISHING A CHEMICAL WEAPON (CW) WORKING GROUP TO CONSIDER A CW TREATY AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME.

4. THE CHAIRMAN PRESENTED TWO PROPOSALS FROM THE CO-CHARIMEN WHICH WOULD SET OPENING DATE OF MARCH 14 FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 04 GENEVA 01186 180931Z

CONVENING OF INFORMAL MEETINGS ON MDW AND SET WEEK OF FEB 21-25 FOR MEETING OF SEISMIC EXPERTS GROUP. BOTH PROPOSALS WERE ADOPTED. THE CHAIRMAN READ THE COMMUNIQUE AND THEN ADJOURNED MEETING. THE NEXT PLENARY IS SCHEDULED FOR FEB 22. CATTO

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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Reason:
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